

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A communication system (200) ~~comprises~~ including one or more communication networks supporting communications for a plurality of communication units on a shared communication resource, wherein the communication network (200) ~~is characterised by~~ comprises:

an identification function (144) for identifying interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared resource;

a resource-responsible agent (140), responsive to the identification function (144) identifying an interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared resource; and

a communication adaptation function (142), responsive to the resource-responsible agent (140) in reducing a level of interference or making a portion of the shared resource available for use.

2. (currently amended) A communication system (200) according to Claim 1, wherein the one or more communication networks comprises a first network (210) generating interference that affects communications on a second network (220).

3. (currently amended) A communication system (200) according to Claim 2, wherein the communication networks (210, 220) are uncoordinated.

4. (currently amended) A communication system (200) according to Claim 2 ~~or Claim 3~~, wherein the identification function (144) resides in a subscriber unit (100, 230) or a serving communication unit (222) on the second network (220).

5. (currently amended) A communication system (200) according to ~~any of preceding Claims 2 to 4~~, wherein the communication adaptation function (142) resides in a subscriber unit (100, 232) or a serving communication unit (212) operating on the first network (210) such that the resource-responsible agent (140) is able to influence the communication of the subscriber unit (232) or the communication behaviour on the first communication network (210).

6. (currently amended) A communication system ~~(200)~~ ~~(200)~~ according to ~~any of preceding~~ Claim 2 ~~to~~ 5, wherein the communication system ~~(200)~~ ~~(200)~~ is further characterised by a reconciliation and mediation agent (202) operably coupled to the first network (210) and second network (220) for mediating therebetween.

7. (currently amended) A communication system ~~(200)~~ ~~(200)~~ according to Claim 6, wherein the reconciliation and mediation agent (202) reconciles interference that the first network (210) caused to the second network (220) and determines any countermeasures employed by either network.

8. (currently amended) A communication system ~~(200)~~ ~~(200)~~ according to ~~any of preceding~~ Claim 2 ~~to~~ 7, wherein the second network (220) suffering interference from the first network (210) initiates a procedure to detect the interference and inform the first network (210) of the interference.

9. (currently amended) A communication system ~~(200)~~ ~~(200)~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the one or more communication networks is a single network, such that the communication adaptation function (142) is responsive to the resource-responsible agent (140) in reducing a level of interference or making a portion of the shared resource available for use within the single network.

10. (currently amended) A communication unit ~~(100)~~ ~~comprising~~ including a processor (108) operating on a shared communication resource, wherein the ~~communication unit (100)~~ is characterised in that the processor (108) comprises:

- a resource-responsible agent (140), responsive to an identification of interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared communication resource; and

- a communication adaptation function (142), responsive to the resource-responsible agent (140) in reducing a level of interference caused by the communication unit (100) or making a portion of the shared resource available for use by other communication units.

11. (currently amended) A communication unit ~~(100)~~ according to Claim 10, wherein the communication unit is a wireless subscriber communication unit or a wireless serving communication unit ~~(212, 222)~~.

12. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9, or~~ a communication unit ~~(100) according to any of preceding Claims 10 or 11,~~ wherein the resource-responsible agent ~~(140)~~ is distributable to a number of communication units operating in the one or more networks ~~(210, 220)~~.

13. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to Claim 12 or a~~ communication unit ~~(100)~~ according to Claim 12, wherein the distribution and/or activation of the resource-responsible agent ~~(140)~~ is based on one or more of the following: location of an interference or communication unit ~~(100)~~, usage patterns that historically resulted in interference, exchange for receiving a reduced tariff for usage.

14. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9, 12 or 13 or~~ a communication unit ~~(100)~~ according to ~~any of preceding Claims 10 to 13,~~ wherein the communication adaptation function ~~(142)~~ in response to the resource-responsible agent ~~(140)~~ restricts capabilities of an interfering communication unit ~~(100)~~ for certain classes of users.

15. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 14 or~~ a communication unit ~~(100)~~ according to ~~any of preceding Claims 10 to 14,~~ wherein the identification of interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared communication resource is based on one or more of the following: a local measurement of interference, an interference measurement transmitted to a communication unit via the network or a serving communication unit, an interference measurement transmitted to a communication unit from another communication unit in a similar locality.

16. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 15 or~~ a communication unit (100) according to ~~any of preceding Claims 10 to 15,~~ wherein the communication adaptation function (142) comprises one or more time-limited behaviour pattern(s) (316), ~~for example, including at least one of the group of:~~ a reduction in transmit power of a subscriber communication unit ~~or~~ a network causing interference, ~~for, say,~~ a random period of time, and a network causing interference for a fixed period of time.

17. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 16 or~~ a communication unit (100) according to ~~any of preceding Claims 10 to 16,~~ wherein the communication adaptation function (142) automatically and/or autonomously adapts one or more operational parameters of the communication unit (100) in response to the resource-responsible agent (140).

18. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 17 or~~ a communication unit (100) according to ~~any of preceding Claims 10 to 17,~~ wherein the communication adaptation function (142) adapts one or more performance attributes of the interfering wireless communication unit (100), ~~for example~~ causing one or more of the following effects: a less clear audio signal and/or video signal, break a connection, fail to establish a connection, perform at a reduced power level or limit a connection time, a reduction in the wireless communication unit (100)'s battery power, temporarily disabling the interfering wireless communication unit (100), increasing a tariff, ~~or~~ and withholding service.

19. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 18 or a communication unit (100) according to any of preceding Claims 10 to 18~~, wherein a communication unit (100) having received a resource-responsible agent (140) is able to remove an effect of the resource-responsible agent (140) if the communication unit (100) performs one or more of the following:

- (i) Power-down upon sensing or being informed of interference;
- (ii) Switch to operating in an opportunity driven multiple access mode;
- (iii) Switch to using local short-range nodes to obtain information;
- (iv) Switch to using a fixed wire-line connection;
- (v) Halts communications until it is operating nearer to its serving wireless communication unit (100); and/or
- (vi) Effect a payment for the resource-responsible agent (140) to be disabled.

20. (currently amended) A ~~communication system (200) according to any of preceding Claims 1 to 9 or 12 to 19 or a communication unit (100) according to any of preceding Claims 10 to 19~~, wherein an action taken by the communication adaptation function (142) is based on its sensitivity to, or prioritisation allocated to, one or more of the following parameters:

- (i) Location of the wireless communication unit (100);
- (ii) Frequency of operation of the wireless communication unit;
- (iii) Radio frequency transmit power of the wireless subscriber communication unit;
- (iv) One or more services requested by the wireless subscriber communication unit; and
- (v) Event correlations.

21. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The communication system according to Claim 6, wherein the reconciliation and mediation agent (202) characterised in that it is operably coupled to and mediates between at least two interfering uncoordinated networks (210, 220).

22. (currently amended) ~~A reconciliation and mediation agent (202)~~ The communication system according to Claim 21 ~~7~~, wherein the reconciliation and mediation agent (202) is configured to ~~reconcile an interference that a first network (210) causes to a second network (220) and~~ determines whether any countermeasures that either network has performed has reduced the interference.

23. (currently amended) ~~A reconciliation and mediation agent (202)~~ The communication system according to ~~Claim 21 or~~ Claim 22, wherein the reconciliation and mediation agent (202) ~~comprises, or is operably coupled to,~~ includes a function that controls one or more of the following behaviours:

- (i) An ability to report back behaviour and/or countermeasure behaviour employed by a communication unit (100);
- (ii) An ability to trace a progress of a resource-responsible agent (140) strain; and
- (iii) An ability for the communication unit (100) to time-stamp its activity.

24. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The communication system according to claim 6, wherein the reconciliation and mediation agent ~~(202) that~~ is distributable to at least one of a subscriber communication unit (100, 230, 232) ~~or and~~ a communication network (210, 220) to effect a modification of the wireless subscriber communication unit's or communication network's operational capabilities in response to a trigger related to potential interference or non-availability of a communication resource.

25. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The communication unit (100) comprising a according to Claim 10 wherein the processor (108) ~~to receive~~ includes a resource-responsible agent (140) ~~according to Claim 24 and~~ operable to modify one or more operational parameters of the communication unit (100) in response to determining that it is operating in a resource irresponsible manner.

26. (currently amended) A method (~~300~~) of sharing a communication resource in a communication system (~~200~~), ~~the communication system (200) comprising~~ including one or more networks supporting communication for a plurality of communication units on the shared communication resource, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying (~~302, 304, 306~~) an interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared resource;

~~the method characterised by the steps of:~~

distributing and/or activating (~~308, 310~~) a resource-responsible agent (~~140~~) to reduce a level of interference or make a portion of the shared resource available for use in the communication system (~~200~~) in response to identifying an interference within or non-availability of a portion of the shared resource; and

adapting (~~316~~) one or more communication functions upon receipt of activation of the resource-responsible agent (~~140~~).

27. (currently amended) A method of sharing a communication resource in a communication system (~~200~~) according to Claim 26, wherein the one or more communication networks are uncoordinated and comprises at least a first network generating interference that affects communications on a second network, wherein the method is further ~~characterised by~~ comprising the step of:

mediating between the first network and the second network, ~~for example~~ based on any countermeasures employed by either network.

28-29. (cancelled).